

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     PRETOR 04653 111513Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 HA-05 NEA-10 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 /116 W  
-----046990 111541Z /46

P 111348Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2071  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMCONSUL DURBAN

UNCLAS PRETORIA 4653

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PDEV, PINTE, PINS, RH  
SUBJECT: RHODESIA; PRESS RUMORS OF PRELIMINARY MEETING TO  
ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE CITIZEN ON AUGUST 11;  
BEGIN TEXT:

SMITH-PF TALKS NOT YET ON.

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"AT THIS STAGE - SPECULATION". THAT IS THE REACTION OF  
TOP RHODESIAN SOURCES TO CLAIMS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER,  
MR. IAN SMITH, AND MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM COUNCIL MAY MEET  
PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS JOSHUA NKOMO AND ROBERT MUGABE IN  
THE UNITED STATES LATER THIS MONTH.

IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED THAT CERTAIN U.S. SENATORS ARE  
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ANXIOUS THAT THE "QUADS" OF THE INTERIM COUNCIL VISIT  
WASHINGTON TO PUT THEIR CASE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND TO  
CONGRESS - " BUT AS YET NOTHING HAS BEEN FINALIZED".

RUMORS WERE SPEARED IN SALISBURY ON WEDNESDAY THAT THERE  
WAS A DISTINCT POSSIBLITY THAT MR. SMITH WOULD MEET THE  
TERRORIST LEADERS AT CAMP DAVID, PRESIDENT CARTER'S  
COUNTRY RETREAT IN MARYLAND.

SOURCES SAID THE MEETING WOULD ALSO BE ATTENDED BY THE MODERATE BLACK LEADERS OF THE RHODESIAN TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT, THE REV. NDABANINGI SITHOLE, BISHOP ABEL MUZOREWA AND SENATOR CHIEF JEREMIAH CHIRAU.

IT WAS BEING SPECULATED IN SALISBURY THAT THE MEETING WOULD BE CHAIRED BY THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY, MR. DAVID OWEN, AND THE AMERICAN SECRETARY FOR STATE, MR. CYRUS VANCE.

SUCH A MEETING WAS BEING VIEWED IN OFFICIAL CIRCLED AS A PRELUDE TO AN ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE TO RESOLVE RHODESIA'S COSTITUTIONAL PROBLEM.

THE PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS HAVE REPEATEDLY REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE RHODESIA'S INTERNAL SETTLEMENT SIGNED ON MARCH 3.

THE RHODESIAN INTERNAL LEADERS HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT IS IRREVERSIBLE, BUT THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED SWING OF OPINION IN SALISBURY IN RECENT WEEKS TOWARDS THE NEED TO ATTEND A NEW ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE BASED ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALSM.

THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENVOYS ARE AGAIN IN SALISBURY IN A BID TO BRING ALL PARTIES IN THE RHODESIAN DISPUTE TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE.

THE MOVEMENTS OF BOTH MR. JOHN GRAHAM AND MR. STEPHEN LOW ARE BEING KEPT HIGHLY SECRET.

A SECRET MEETING OF THE SIX KEY FIGURES IN THE RHODESIAN DISPUTE IS SEEN AS A NECESSARY STOP TO CONVENING AN ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE.  
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SOURCES SAY SUCH A MEETING WOULD DETERMINE WHETHER THERE WEE AREAS OF AGREEMENT THAT WOULD ENABLE THE LEADERS TO SIT AROUND A CONFERENCE TABLE WITHOUT PRODUCING ANOTHER GENEVA DEBACLE.

BOTSWANA HAS BEEN GIVEN AS ANOTHER VENUE FOR SUCH A MEETING.

BUT SOURCES SAY THE UNITED STATES IS MORE LIKELY AS MR. SMITH HAS A NUMBER OF OPEN INVITATIONS TO APPEAR THERE, INCLUDING THE NFLUENTIAL TELEVISION PROGRAM, FACE-TO-FACE, AND REQUESTS THAT HE ADDRESSES THE NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON PRESS CLUBS. END TEXT.  
EDMONDSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PDEV, PINT, PINS, RH  
**To:** STATE USUN NEW YORK  
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